

(26)

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

190⁶ X-87

(Gen. Secy)

File No. 322/06-2

Serial Nos. 5, 6, 8

Papers Filed.

Month February

SUBJECT.

Report of an Deputation of
Mr. Cameron to Calcutta
& proposal to lay out memorial
grounds

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.

LATER REFERENCES.

Jm. 205-08/09 1-4
526

" 137-10. 25 1-4

" 30-11 " 1-2

190 7. 28

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(G. R. S. 11)

NOTES.

fm File No. $\frac{322}{662}$

 FILE HEADING.

 From

No.	Dated	Received
Diary No. }	Enclos.	Spare Copies. }
		Serial No.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

 NOTES AND ORDERS.

 Notes—First sheet.

No 864.

Bangalore,

30-11-1907.

D. 2535A

Dear Mr. Cameron,

I have shewn the enclosed letter to the Dewan.
He says that till your return from Calcutta after attending this conference you will be considered as having been on duty and your relief from duty may take place here.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- R. Nanasamy Rao.

Copy submitted to the Secretary for information.

Bangalore,

30th November 1907.

lee

Under-Secretary.

V

Note & keep copy in file

21/12.

2/12

Serial
No.

Subd

D. 2535A

File no 322 of 06/07 sl 1-4
regarding the deputation of
Mr J. Cameron to attend the
Museum Conference at
Calcutta subd. Though it
is more than 15 days since
Mr Cameron returned from
the Conference no report has
been received from him as
to about the discussions
etc that took place at the Con-
ference-

Draft letter to Mr J.
Cameron subd for approval.
His or other orders-

21/1/08. Bly may the letter be issued?
Secy) 21.1.08. Will

The letter may perhaps be issued,
but I suppose we shall get a
printed report through the Resd.

2nd 27

22/1/08
23.1.08.

435
23.1.08

The report of the proceedings
of the Committee will be
received thro' the Residence

Serial
No.

5 To J. Cameron Esq ^{Retd} Supt Govt. Gardens & Museum
no G. 4587 of 31. 1. '08 — Requests him to
furnish a report as to his movements at
Calcutta & any particulars of interest to Govt
in connection with the Museum Conference
of 1907.

6 From the Supt Govt Museum.
No 143 of 18th Feb 1908.

Forwards Mr J. Cameron's report
on his recent visit to Calcutta
on deputation in connection with
the Museum Conference held there
at the last cold weather.

Subd. Mr Cameron gives a
summary of the discussions
took place in the conference but
the resolutions of the Govt of India
on the decisions arrived at
at the conference, may be
awaited.

In para 3 of his report Mr
Cameron suggests certain
arrangements for laying down
the grounds attached to the Cal-
cutta Memorial Works which

fm File No. 322 of 1906-08

5782

Serial
No.

Subd. The papers may be filed

Yes

Yes

10/8/08

10-3-08

21111

Yes

10-3-08

File
10-3-08

Diary No. of letter replied to _____

No. G. 4587

General and Revenue Secretariat

()
the 190To J. Cameron Esq^r
Resd. Supt. Govt.
Gardens & Museum
BangaloreDate of issue 31st Jan^y '08

Signed by W. K. Mylarthan

Sd/-

With reference to your recent deputation to attend the Museum Conference at Calcutta in Dec 1907, I am directed to request that a report as to your movements at Calcutta, how long you stayed in Calcutta & when you

any particulars of interest to the Mysore Durbar in Conn^y with the Conference there

over.

SUBJECT.

Gm.

252511

returned to Bangalore the
money kindly be fur-
nished to Govt at
an early date.

I have the

Yours
P. S. S. S. S.

List of enclosures

Copied by P. S. S. S. S.
Examined by

Bhuj, Catich, 12th Feb. 1908

From Mr. J. Cameron

To C. S. Balasundaram Iyer Esq^r. B.A.
offg Secretary to Govt. Genl. &
B. Dept.

Sir

In reply to your N^o 9458/G^m 322-46-5
of the 31st ult. I have the honor to
submit the following particulars of my
recent visit to Calcutta on deputation,
as requested. The reason for not
doing so earlier, which I regret,
is due to private affairs having
urgently called me to this place

2. I arrived at Calcutta on
the 26th ult. and the preliminary
meeting of the Museum Conference
was held at the Indian Museum
on the following day. The enclosed
paper will show what business
was done at that meeting as
also the whole agenda laid before
the Conference and the names of
delegates who attended from
different parts of India.

Subsequently the delegates sat for

Calcutta on the evening of the 31st and halted for one day at Madras to pay my respects to H.H. the Maharaja.

3 When at Calcutta I availed myself of the opportunity, as requested by Govt., of visiting the memorial of the late lamented Maharaja, at Kalighat, in company with Mr. Chatterjee, the florist who has been employed to lay out the grounds on a design furnished by me. On the occasion of this visit nothing had been done to the grounds owing, as Mr. Chatterjee explained, to no provision having been made in the estimate given to him for laying down the main gravel path leading from the entrance gate to the Memorial. Owing to this omission Mr. Chatterjee has applied for an additional grant of Rs 500. The space immediately around the memorial needs to be neatly gravelled. I also pointed out that the bank on either side of the Sopanum leading down to the river should be evenly sloped and turfed, and that iron railings with a back-ground of shrubs and creepers would add much to the improvement of this part.

This discussion with the contractor
led to the proposal by him that owing
to the difficulty of supply and upkeep,
it would be to the interest of Govt.
to give a permanent contract or small
monthly stipend for which he would
be glad - and greatly appreciate the
honor - of maintaining the grounds
properly at all seasons. If this
was done the present staff of un-
skilled mallee and caretakers could
be retained, as Mr. Chatterjee, who
is a Brahmin, could employ his own
staff. At Madras I had the
honor of seeing H. H. the Maharaja
and explained the above proposal,
with which His Highness seemed
pleased. The main point is
to arrange for the permanent beauty
of the memorial and to do this
effectively the garden will require
a certain amount of skill and
material always. In conclusion
I shall feel obliged if a copy of this
letter is forwarded to the Chief Engineer
who asked me to ascertain if the additional
Rs 500 asked for by Mr. Chatterjee
is a proper charge. I certainly
think all funds that may be

required should be applied for through
Messrs. Martin & Co. who, I understand
are the responsible Agents at present.
I am unable to say if the sum of
£10 500 had been included in the
original estimates or not.

I have the honor to
remain, Sir, your most
obdt Servt

Ed.

Wm
18/2/08.

Bamers

M u s e u m C o n f e r e n c e .

-----oo 0 oo-----

Opening Meeting 27th December 1907.

First subject- moved by Dr.N. Annandale.

"Systematic exchange of duplicates and casts of unique specimens".

1. Dr.N. Annandale, Superintendent of the Natural History Section of the Indian Museum, opened the debate. He stated that the Museum possessed large stores of duplicate zoological specimens, which he would be very pleased to distribute. This was rendered impossible at present by the smallness of Museum staff, both as regards trained zoologists and as regards trustworthy subordinates skilled in the sorting and packing of specimens. Such subordinates were difficult to obtain in India and had to be trained in the Museum. It was important that no specimen should be sent out from a scientific institution with a name that was not absolutely authentic. In the case of few groups of animals the Museum would be glad to receive and classify collections in exchange for a proportion of the specimens, but the high degree of specialization to which the science of zoology had attained made it impossible to undertake work of the kind except to a very limited extent. The Indian Museum was always glad to receive duplicate specimens from Provincial Museums, because, except in a very few groups of animals, the fauna of India was still practically unknown. Nothing was too common to be of value! specimens which were not wanted for the Museum ~~itself~~ could generally be exchanged for others that were wanted from European or American Museums. The Indian Museum was the central museum for the whole of India and as such was bound, so far as it could, both to help Provincial Museums

- III. Commencing on this subject the Mysore delegate enquired what arrangements could be made to meet charges for packing and forwarding such specimens, and suggested that while the Indian Museum would probably meet its own charges the Provincial Museums should do the same. He also warmly supported the Chairman's suggestion that representatives from Provincial Museums might be allowed to visit the Indian Museum for the purpose of making approved selections from time to time and that on such occasions they should not come empty-handed, but bring duplicates that may be required at Calcutta from their own Museum.
- IV. Mr. Burkill said that he could supply duplicate material as worked up and would prefer to do it on indent. He did not demand a definite quid pro quo believing that a good understanding was far better than any contract.
- V. Mr. Thurston suggested that the Zoological section of the Indian Museum might be glad to receive duplicate specimens, even of common species, from the various Provincial Museums, for exhibition, distribution or reference in the reserve collection.
- VI. Mr. Burns said that the question of making casts of Museum specimens depended only upon the addition to the staffs of Museums of a competent Moulder. The training of such men could either be undertaken at the four principal schools of Art, or one of them could open a special section for this purpose. The men to be trained could either be natives of the locality in which the School of Art was situated, or selected men can be sent by the Museum to undergo a course of training at the School. The latter was in my opinion, preferable.

INDIAN MUSEUM (Natural History Section).

27, Chowringhee, Calcutta,

No.1073, dated the 25th November 1907.

From

The SECRETARY to the

TRUSTEES of the INDIAN MUSEUM,

Natural History Section.

To

J. Cameron Esq.,

Delegate from the Government of Mysore,

Superintendent, Government Museum,

Bangalore.

Sir,

With reference to the Museum Conference sanctioned by the Government of India circular No.3651 of the 27th April last to be held in Calcutta this cold weather, I have the honor to enquire whether the Christmas-New Year week will suit you for holding the Conference. An early reply will enable the Local Committee to draw up a detailed programme. It is suggested that an inaugural meeting be held on Friday, December 27th, when a programme of subjects can be prepared for discussion on say Monday the 30th and Tuesday 31st December. The intervening Saturday might be used for inspection of the Indian Museum and other institutions of interest.

I have &c.,

Sd/- R.E. Lloyd, Capt., I.M.S.,

Secretary to the Trustees.

Serial
No.

in the course -
What is more to the point
is - a report as to Mr.
Cameron's movements
how long he stayed in
Calcutta & when he
returned to Bangalore?

WV
23/1/08

Put up a draft please.

23.1.08. WV

Revised draft-sub?

WV
24/1/08 But it is submitted that
info as to how long he stayed
at Calcutta & when he came
back to Bangalore is available
in his T/A which may be or has been
used for audit & pay. Draft as
desired is however put up.

WV

24.1.08.

May the draft issue?

Secy)

25.1.08

WV

Issue

WV

27/1/08

WV

27.1.08

Serial
No.

2-3782

which he visited during his
stay at Calcutta & requests
that a copy of his remarks
may be sent to the Chief Eng.

Draft forwarding an extract
of para 3 of his report to the
Chief Eng. subd. ^{for} approval.
After issue the report may
be submitted to the Dewan &
Councillors for perusal.

Ms. B. Submitted with
21/2/08 to draft
Secy) 21.2.08

Issue submit to
Crs for perusal

27/2
22/2

8 To the Chief Engineer - no G. 5016 of 25.2.08
For needful action extract of Para 3 of
Mr. Cameron's Report, suggesting arrangements
for laying out the grounds ^{attached} to the Calcutta
Memorial Works

5912
27.2.1908

Recd
J. H. Wood
14/2/1
9/3/08

12 1/2 2020
VMS 1908. D. 37/82

From

G. M. Kumbhkar Esq.,
Super., Mysore Fort. Museum.

To C. S. Balasubrahman Esq. Esq.,
offg. Secretary to the Govt. of M. M. the
Maharaja of Mysore, Civil and Rev. Dept.

Dated

18th

Despatched

19th

February '08.

Received

General No.

143

No.

1907. 08.

Enclosure No. 1 Report.

Sir,

I have the honor to
forward Mr. J. Cameron's report
on his recent visit to Calcutta
on deputation in connection with
the Museum Conference held at
the Indian Museum.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedt. Servant

G. M. Kumbhkar

Superintendent

32290607
8206

Two full days on the 30th and 31st discussing out in detail the various subjects brought before the Conference and recording resolutions on each by the majority of vote. Most of the latter were of an eminently useful and practical nature and cannot fail to be of mutual benefit to all the Museums concerned.

The special subject moved by me was "The utility of Art Sale Rooms attached to Museums." This gave rise to an animated discussion lasting for nearly an hour. But I regret the motion was lost, 6 delegates being for and 8 against it. My remarks will, however, be embodied in the Proceedings of the Conference and the latter will be reviewed by the Govt. of India prior to being circulated for the opinion of Provincial Governments and Native States. It was resolved to hold a triennial Conference in different parts of India and a standing Committee of four members was appointed to take the initiative in conducting these and arranging other matters in connection with the scheme. I departed from —

To Museum
12/27/07

**Proceedings of a meeting of the delegates to the Museums
Conference held on Friday the 27th December 1907 at 10 a.m.**

Present:

- E. Thurston, Esq.
- Hon'ble Mr Ibrahim Rahimtoola, C.I.E.
- C.L. Burns, Esq.
- G.D. Ganguli, Esq.
- J. Cameron, Esq.
- Pandit Gauri Shankar.
- Syed Enayet Farim.
- J.W.N. Cumming, Esq.
- Dr M.K. Kanga.
- Dr A. Mitra
- P. Hide, Esq.
- T.H. Holland, Esq., F.R.S.
- Dr N. Annandale.
- I.H. Burkill, Esq.

The Hon'ble Mr J.F. Finlay, G.S.I., opened the conference and welcomed the members to Calcutta.

Mr Thurston proposed that Mr Holland should be elected Chairman. The proposal was seconded by Mr Cameron and carried unanimously.

Mr Holland explained the genesis of the conference and invited the members to elect a Secretary, proposing the name of Dr N. Annandale. The proposal was seconded by Mr Thurston and carried.

It was agreed that the conference should meet on Monday the 30th December at 10.30 a.m. and sit till 1 p.m., and from 2.30 p.m. till 5 p.m., and also at the same hours on Tuesday the 31st December.

The following programme of the meetings was drawn up and the names of those members who were to introduce each subject for discussion was decided upon.

1. Systematic exchange of duplicates and casts of unique specimens. Dr Annandale.
2. Provincial organization of collecting in the field. Mr Cumming.
3. The publication of results. Dr Annandale.
4. Disposal of type specimens, their registration in catalogues distributed for the information of workers. The registration of new specimens. Mr Burkill.
5. Classification of public exhibits and reference collections. Mr Holland.

6. Methods for the reservation of specimens and labels specially suitable to the climate. Mr Burkill.
7. Recognized special functions of particular Provincial Museums. Mr Thurston.
8. The preparation of guides for the public. Mr Thurston.
9. Art sale rooms in connection with Museums. Mr Cameron.
10. Mr Summings' questions.
11. Financial aspects of Museums. Mr Cumming.
12. The question of separating the Botanical collection from the Lucknow Provincial Museum for the purpose of handing over the specimens to the Horticultural Gardens, Lucknow. Mr Ganguli.
13. Question of an Annual Museum conference. Dr Mitra.

Mr Cumming brought forward a list of questions which he wished to ask. It was agreed that he should first discuss these questions with Dr Annandale and reintroduce later those which it was considered necessary to discuss publicly.

It was agreed that the delegates will carry out an inspection of the Indian Museum on Sunday the 29th December.

The discussion on the first question, namely, the systematic exchange of duplicates and casts of unique specimens, was opened by Dr Annandale, and the following members spoke, Messrs Holland, Burns, Ganguli, Cameron, Cumming, Burkill and Dr Mitra.

Dr Annandale, Mr Burns and Mr Cameron were appointed a subcommittee to draft a resolution regarding the exchange of duplicates and casts of unique specimens.

The meeting was then adjourned till Monday to allow the delegates from the Punjab, who had not yet arrived, taking part in the discussions on the first question of a programme.

- x. The abstracts of the remarks of those members who took part in the discussions will be distributed later.

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and to ask help from them. Its main function, so far as the Natural History Section was concerned, was to collect and preserve for reference as complete a collection of the Indian Fauna as was ~~as~~ possible and to do such research upon the accumulated material as would elucidate the varied problems connected with the zoology of the Indian Empire, and its surroundings.

2. Mr. Holland commented on the want of staff in Calcutta sufficient to undertake the work of sorting and packing duplicates that could be spared for Provincial Museums, and suggested that the latter might depute their own officers to carry out this work under the supervision of the officers in the Indian Museum. The Provincial officers would know best the requirements of their own museums, and at the same time would be able to find out what deficiencies in the Calcutta institution can best be removed by assistance from the Provinces. It is difficult for the Superintendents of the Indian Museum to assist local institutions without knowing their precise wants, and without knowing exactly to what extent they entertain exhibits that represent other provinces and extra - Indian localities. In this latter way Museums differ from schools and colleges which it is also our duty to assist. Generally, however, a Provincial Museum can safely send duplicates of any kind to the Indian Museum, as we are in want more often of representative average specimens of the commoner forms than of exceptional exhibits! for the public still think that a Museum is a collection of curios instead a faithful representation of normal Nature.

VII. Mr. Hide suggested that the difficulty of recruiting the staff of the India Museum might be met by sending a circular each year to the Head masters- and especially the English Head Masters - of large Indian Schools. The circulars could make clear the kind of men wanted and would give an account of the pay and prospects of men employed in the Museum.

VIII. With reference to the remarks made by Dr. Annandale regarding the distribution of duplicates in Indian Museum among other Museums in India, Mr. Cumming agreed with the Chairman that each Museum should send a representative to Calcutta to make such selections as may be actually required from among the duplicates in question as many Provincial Museums may not desire or have room for specimens other than those of local interest. As regards Provincial Museums supplying the Indian Museum with specimens he agreed that this was very necessary so far as duplicates were concerned. In the case of single specimens these should be retained by the Provincial Museums concerned but casts may be supplied or, when practicable, the originals may be sent to the Indian Museum for inspection, registration and return. Where the Indian Museum had only a few duplicates of specimens which may be of use to several Museums they might be issued to Museums in the same order as was observed in connection with the distribution of coins.

IX. Dr. Mitra suggested that every local Museum should contribute whenever it was possible to do so, duplicates of specimens which may be of interest and which may not be present in the Indian Museum. The Indian Museum represents the Museum of the Indian Empire and therefore should contain everything which can be found in all parts of the Empire, to which end the local and provincial museums should help. The best specimens of Art and Industrial products of every

part of the Empire should be shown in the Indian Museum. This would for obvious reasons greatly benefit those industries. He should, for instance, like that there should be a "Kashmir Court" in the Indian Museum where representative selections of Kashmir industries might be kept. If the Indian Museum can bear the cost, well and good, but as Kashmir Art Industries will be greatly benefited by such a show he would be greatly pleased to recommend the traders and the Durbar to consider the question of bearing some portion of the cost. Calcutta is visited by people from all parts of the world, so the advantages of such a permanent exhibition of local art industries are obvious. As regards exchange of specimens, whenever duplicates are available it should be done. Casts of unique specimens or photographs might also be exchanged.

- X. Mr. Brown proposed that something ~~might~~ might be done with regard to a systematic exchange of reserve specimens, by each Museum publishing at certain intervals, (say quarterly) a list of objects of which it has duplicates, and circulating this among other Museums/. At the same time a few of the more important requirements of the Museum might be indicated in a separate column. He did not say that this would meet the case in its entirety, but it would be a commencement, and might be the means of bringing the Museums at least into touch with one another, leading to larger developments later on. He thought this might be of use where a Curator required a particular specimen to complete a series and was not certain of the locality from which it could be best obtained.

The above was only an alternative to the proposal that Curators should visit each Museum in turn to see what articles are in those Museums of which they require duplicates or casts. What is regarded as a common specimen in

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one Museum, may be rare in another, and for which the Curator of the latter has been searching for years. Correspondence will not bring these cases to light and he thought that they could only be met by personal visits. Some action may be proposed to bring ^{the} to the notice of Local Government, etc., to enable Curators to make a tour of all the Indian Museums.

XI. Mr. Ram Singh suggested that the Curators of the Indian and other Provincial Museums should arrange occasionally a list with photos of the objects of which they have duplicates and should send them to the other Museums. This good system would enable the Curators to pick out such duplicates which they required. It was most essential that the Curators should make occasional visits to the other Museums. And a general meeting of the delegates should be held annually, generally in Calcutta, and sometimes in Bombay, Madras, etc., wherever the Conference may appoint time to time.

74

Draft of the RESOLUTIONS regarding the systematic exchange
of duplicates and casts of unique specimens submitted by the
by the Secretary to the
subcommittee

--- oo O oo ---

1. That the systematic exchange of duplicates and of reproductions of unique specimens between the Indian Museum and the Provincial Museums would be beneficial to both and would have important results both from a scientific and an economic point of view.
2. That in order to ascertain the wants of the different Museums as regards duplicates and reproductions, the Superintendents of the Indian Museum should have opportunities of consulting with the officers of the Provincial Museums from time to time.
3. That lists of the duplicate specimens available for distribution in the various museums should be printed and circulated.
4. That, in order that these proposals should be carried out, it is necessary that there should be a considerable increase in the expert staff of the central museum at Calcutta and in the skilled subordinate staff both of this museum and of the Provincial museums. As the qualities and training necessary for subordinates who would have the sorting, cataloguing and distribution of the specimens for distribution to do cannot be gauged by the ordinary standard of examination, head-masters in India should be informed of the qualifications necessary for the work and of the prospects of boys fitted to undertake it, and that selected candidates for posts in the Provincial Museums should undergo a period of training in the Indian Museum.
5. That the most expeditious and economical manner of carrying out the systematic exchange of duplicates, so far as the financial side of the question is concerned, would be the institution of a special fund, to which both the Indian and Provincial Museums should be contributors, and that this fund might be administered

✓

by the Secretary to the Trustees of the Indian Museum and be
used for all expenditure connected with the packing and despatch
of specimens.

J. Cameron.

C. L. Burns.

N. Annandale.

From

Secy. to the Govt. of His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore,
Genl. and Rev. Dept.

To

The Chief Engr

Dated

1st Mysore

Despatched 25. 2. 08

Received

General No. G. 5016

Glu No. 322-06-8

Enclosure No. 1

Sir,

I have the honor to
~~forward herewith~~ ^{for the information of the} as
desired by Mr J. Cameron
for needful action
an extract of para 3 from
his report on the
Mr Cameron's
letter dated
the 12th Feb 1908 - suggesting
certain arrangements
for laying out the

the ²⁹ grounds attached to the
Calcutta Memorial Works

Bo

revel
In see
86

3/11/11
revel